## Message Text

## CONFIDENTIAL

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INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 CEA-01 STR-07 AID-05 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 /123 W

-----060094 101837Z /45

R 101325Z MAY 78 FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8336 INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA AMCONSUL CAPETOWN USMISSION USUN NEW YORK AMEMBASSY JIDDA

CONFIDENTIAL ADDIS ABABA 2108

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

DEPT PASS OAU COLLECTIVE

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PORG, OAU, SA SUBJECT: MAJOR SAUDI

SUBJECT: MAJOR SAUDI ARABIAN CONTRIBUTION TO OAU IN SUPPORT OF

LIBERATION MOVEMENTS

REF: (A) ADDIS ABABA 1710 (NOTAL); (B) ADDIS ABABA 1775 (NOTAL)

1. EMBASSY RECIEVED DIPLOMATIC NOTE FROM SAUDI ARABIAN EMBASSY DATED MAY 5, 1978 ANNOUNCING PRESENTATION BY RESIDENT CHARGE' D'AFFAIRES OF 2 MILLION US DOLLARS TO ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY (OAU) ADMIN SECGEN WILLIAM ETEKI MBOUMOUA ON BEHALF OF HIS MAJESTY'S KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA "TO SUPPORT THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN AFRICA WHICH ANNOUNCED DURING THE TOP CONFERENCE OF AFROCONFIDENTIAL

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ARAB COOPERATION." NOTE WAS ADDRESSED TO ETHIOPIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY AND ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR MISSIONS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN ADDIS ABABA. PRESENTATION HAS NOT BEEN REPORTED IN ETHIOPIAN MEDIA.

2. COMMENT: PRESUMABLY SAUDI CONTRIBUTION IS FOR OAU

AFRICA LIBERATION COMMITTEE (ALC), WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALLOCATING FUNDS TO SOUTHERN AFRICA LIBERATION GROUPS, AND FOR ASSISTANCE TO FRONT LINE STATES THROUGH COMMITTEE OF TEN. IT IS SOMEHWAT UNUSUAL THAT MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TO OAU HAS NOT APPEARED IN ETHIOPIAN MEDIA, WHICH NORMALLY HAS GOOD COVERAGE OF OAU AFFAIRS. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT BECAUSE SUADI CONTRIBUTION DIRECTLY CONTRADICTS ETHIOPIAN PROPAGANDA AGAINST "REACTIONARY ARAB REGIMES." INCLUDING SAUDI ARABIA, SAUDI ASSISTANCE TO "LIBERATION" OF AFRICA WILL NOT RECEIVE ANY ATTENTION IN ADDIS. TWO MILLION DOLLARS REPRESENT 50 PERCENT OF ALC BUDGET APPROVED IN TRIPOLI IN FEBRUARY AND IS PROB-ABLY SINGLE LARGEST CONTRIBUTION BY EITHER OAU MEMBER OR NON-MEMBER STATE. IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO SEE HOW MUCH "GRATIDUDE" WITHIN OAU AND INDIVIDUAL MEMBER STATES SAUDIS WILL GAIN. MATHERON

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS, LIBERATION FRONTS

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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

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Subject: MAJOR SAUDI ARABIAN CONTRIBUTION TO OAU IN SUPPORT OF LIBERATION MOVEMENTS

TAGS: PORG, SA, OAU

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Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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